Singapore To Be Defended

Churchill-Roosevelt Conference

In the course of a Press conference in the White House, Mr. Churchill said that Singapore would be defended till such time as the Allied Powers were in a position to take the offensive. With regard to German losses in Russia, he was of opinion that they would not affect Nazi striking power at the moment.

President Roosevelt and Mr. Churchill conferred till late at night on Tuesday. Unification of Allied strategy was the subject of their discussions.

State Of Emergency In Bengal

The Government have declared the province of Bengal to be in a state of emergency.

The Government notification states:

"During the past months the Government of Bengal have issued orders and instructions to come into effect on a state of emergency being declared in the province. It being desirable that these orders and instructions should now be carried out, a state of emergency in the province of Bengal is hereby declared".

RUSSIAN WAR TO END IN 1942

Ribbentrop On Axis Plan

The ending of the war in Russia would be one of the main tasks of the German army next year, said Ribbentrop in an interview granted to the Berlin correspondent of a Spanish news agency quoted by the German news agency. Ribbentrop said that Hitler would personally conduct the campaign and added that the Anglo-Saxon Powers were now faced with the combined Powers of the Tripartite Pact in all the war theatres acting in the closest political, military and economic collaboration.—Reuter.

Japanese Thrust Towards Manila

Hong Kong Situation Critical

The Japanese, further reinforced by fresh landings in the Philippines, are reported to be striking towards Manila from two directions. U. S. tank columns are advancing from the capital to meet the invading forces.

The Japanese have probably captured the Wake Island, according to the U. S. navy department. The Japanese lost two destroyers during the operations.

It is officially announced that Japanese warships off the coast of Sarawak are being attacked by sea and air. Three large troop transports and one tanker were sunk by the Allied forces.

The situation in Hong Kong is described as critical. There has been intensive bombardment of British troops and positions.

In Malaya, there has been no change in the situation.

"Administrative Phantom" That is India

(Continued)

whether he would line up with a world-wide effort to make that declaration the universal common law.

"He refused. Why? Because, said he, 'India,' that administrative phantom which is already fading out of existence, 'must first have complete independence.' He refused to be my equal until then.

What he demanded in effect was that the administration of all India should be handed over to a small minority of political amateurs representing, at the most extravagant, not one in four hundred Indians and then, then we should see what we should see.

"Elaborate Pretence"

"Complete independence means cutting the string and I am all for cutting that string but I cannot see why Pandit Nehru does not let his natural intelligence reign and, instead of going on with this elaborate pretence that there is this wonderful special Indian people, realize that if we are to take a broad view only of 'peoples' then the only sane thing is to combine with those who are attempting by their advocacy of a common world law, a world federal control of armaments and transport and world federal conservation of natural resources, to arrest the present rapid drift to chaos in human affairs.

"Will he (Pandit Nehru) remember that I am not a member of the British governing class, that my control of the British Government through the polls is insignificant and that now at last we have equal freedom of discussion? Why must it be 'people' of India and not 'people' of the world?" —*Reuter.*

Consent Essential to Freedom—III

(Continued)

different colonies were eager to unite and to work hand in hand in the development of new mines industries and plantations. Lastly, the people of Australia are all of British stock and have no racial, religious or linguistic conflicts to mar their relations. Hence, the idea of a common nationality strengthened their desire towards Federation. The homogeneity in race of the population encouraged the feeling that the maintenance of artificial frontiers with distinct customs was irrational.

True Federation

Australia is the only British Self-governing Dominion which has a true federal constitution. The Union of South Africa is a Federation in name. Its four Provinces which make up the Union are mere administrative areas which lie at the mercy of the Union Parliament. Canada too in one respect is not a true federation. Its provinces do not retain the original authority. The residuary powers are granted to the Centre, while the powers of the Provinces are limited and strictly defined. The laws of the provinces are subject to revision or total rejection by the Dominion.

In Australia, the powers of the States are undefined and their laws may be disallowed only by the Imperial Parliament and are in no wise under the Commonwealth control. The framers of the Commonwealth constitution were anxious, as fully as possible, to preserve State rights and were influenced by the American model in the allocation of power between the Centre and Provinces. As is truly said, "The Commonwealth constitution is based not on the desire as far as possible to unify, but rather on the granting to the States the retention of the maximum of authority compatible with the creation of a unity in any sense."

(Concluded)

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